



Focus

Air Quality Registration Program

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) administers the air quality registration program. The purpose of the air quality registration program is to develop and maintain a current and accurate record of industrial air pollution sources. Information collected through the registration program is used to evaluate the effectiveness of air pollution control strategies and to verify whether the source is complying with applicable air pollution requirements. Sources are either part of the registration program or the operating permit program. The air quality registration program applies to small and moderate-sized sources of air pollution. Large sources must obtain an operating permit.

Ecology has jurisdiction in the following counties:

Western Washington

Northwest Region, 360-428-1617

San Juan County

Central Washington

Central Region, 509-575-2490

Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat,
Okanogan counties

Eastern Washington

Eastern Region, 509-329-3400

Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry,
Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln,
Pend Oreille, Stevens, Walla Walla,
Whitman counties

All other counties in Washington are under the jurisdiction of their local air quality agency.
For more information, contact your [local clean air agency](#).

Registration process

- **Information request:** Ecology will request information on sources' equipment, processes, and emissions.
- **Emissions calculations:** Ecology uses the information provided by the source to make emission estimates, determine applicability of air pollution regulations, and establish the appropriate registration category for the source.
- **Information verification and notification:** Ecology will notify the source of its registration status and applicable air pollution requirements. The source will have the opportunity to review Ecology's determination.
- **Onsite inspection:** Ecology will visit the source to verify information, answer questions and determine compliance. Ecology will survey or inspect the source to verify information on the registration form. After an inspection, Ecology will send a letter to the source explaining the results of the inspection.

Once a source has been registered, ongoing requirements are determined by the source's registration category.

Registration Program categories and requirements

Emission thresholds are used to determine in which category a facility belongs. This approach matches the level of regulatory involvement with sources' impacts on air quality.

Category	Exempt	Periodic	Annual
Pollutant		Greater than exempt	Greater than periodic
TSP total particulate	<1.25	< 25	< 100
PM₁₀	<.75	<15	< 100
CO	<5	<100	-
NO_x	<2	<40	< 100
SO_x	<2	<40	< 100
VOC	<2	<40	< 100
LEAD	<.005	<.6	-
A Toxic	<0	<10	*
Total Toxics	<0	<25	*

The requirements for each registration category are summarized below.

Category	Exempt	Periodic	Annual
Requirements:			
Reporting	No regular reporting	Once in 3 years	Every year
Inspection	No regular reporting	Once in 3 years	Every year
Annual Fee	\$ 0	\$ 400	Average: \$2500 (year 2001) Range: \$1200 - 4000 Varies by source and year.

All sources are required to report the following when they occur:

- Change in ownership
- Change in operating status or closure

Air pollution sources must comply with all other applicable air quality regulations. These may include additional requirements for reporting, inspection and fees.

Registration fee

Ecology charges a fee for administering the registration program. The fee structure is designed to cover the costs of operation and administration. Enforcement activities such as "notices of violation," enforcement orders, and penalties occur outside the registration program and are not paid for through registration fees.

Facilities may be considered for the following fee reductions upon request:

- **Extreme economic hardship:** A source must qualify as a small business and demonstrate that the registration fee will create an extreme hardship. That determination is made based on annual sales; labor force size; market conditions which affect ability to pass on the cost; average annual profits; and cumulative effect of multiple-site ownership.
- **Pollution prevention initiative:** A source must demonstrate the pollution prevention measure is beyond what is required. The prevention measure must be approved by Ecology.

For more information

Visit our web site at www@ecy.wa.gov. (General regulations for Air pollution Sources, Chapter 173-400 WAC); or call Betty Ann Bickner, Air Quality Program, at (509) 329-3407.

If you require this document in alternative format, please call Judy Beitel, (360) 407-6878 (voice); 711 or 1-800-833-6388 (TTY only).

Source classification list

The state rule identifies the following 56 categories of sources that must register with Ecology.

- (a) Agricultural chemical facilities engaging in the manufacturing of liquid or dry fertilizers or pesticides;**
- (b) Agricultural drying and dehydrating operations;**
- (c) Any category of stationary sources to which a federal standard of performance (NSPS) under 40 CFR Part 60, other than Subpart AAA (Standards of Performance for New Residential Wood Heaters) applies;**
- (d) Any source subject to a National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAPS) under 40 CFR Part 61, other than Subpart M (National Emission Standard for Asbestos).**
- (e) Any source subject to a National Emission Standard for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Source Categories (maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) standard) under 40 CFR Part 63;**
- (f) Any source, stationary source or emission unit with an emission rate defined as “significant” in WAC173-400-112 and/or 173-400-113, as applicable;**
- (g) Asphalt and asphalt products production facilities;**
- (h) Brick and clay manufacturing plants, including tiles and ceramics;**
- (i) Casting facilities and foundries, ferrous and nonferrous;**
- (j) Cattle feedlots with operational facilities with an inventory of 1,000 or more cattle in operation between June 1 and October 1, where vegetation forage growth is not sustained over the majority of the lot during the normal growing season;**
- (k) Chemical manufacturing plants;**
- (l) Composting operations, including commercial, industrial and municipal, but exempting residential composting activities;**
- (m) Concrete product manufacturers and ready mix and pre-mix concrete plants;**
- (n) Crematoria or animal carcass incinerators;**
- (o) Dry cleaning plants;**
- (p) Materials handling and transfer facilities that generate fine particulate, which may include pneumatic conveying, cyclones, baghouses, and industrial housekeeping vacuuming systems that exhaust to the atmosphere;**
- (q) Flexible vinyl and urethane coating and printing operations;**
- (r) Grain, seed, animal feed, legume, and flour processing, operations, and handling facilities;**
- (s) Hay cubers and pelletizers;**
- (t) Hazardous waste treatment and disposal facilities;**
- (u) Ink manufacturers;**
- (v) Insulation fiber manufacturers;**
- (w) Landfills, active and inactive, including covers, gas collections systems or flares;**
- (x) Metal plating and anodizing operations;**
- (y) Metallic and nonmetallic mineral processing plants, including rock crushing plants;**
- (z) Mills such as lumber, plywood, shake, shingle, woodchip, veneer operations, dry kilns, pulpwood insulating board, or any combination thereof;**

Source Classification Cont.

- (aa) Mineralogical processing plants;**
- (bb) Other metallurgical processing plants;**
- (cc) Paper manufacturers;**
- (dd) Petroleum refineries;**
- (ee) Plastics and fiberglass product fabrication facilities;**
- (ff) Rendering plants;**
- (gg) Soil and groundwater remediation projects;**
- (hh) Surface coating manufacturers;**
- (ii) Surface coating operations including: automotive, metal, cans, pressure sensitive tape, labels, coils, wood, plastic, rubber, glass, paper and other substrates;**
- (jj) Synthetic fiber production facilities;**
- (kk) Synthetic organic chemical manufacturing industries;**
- (ll) Tire recapping facilities;**
- (mm) Wastewater treatment plants;**
- (nn) Any source that has elected to opt-out of the Operating Permit Program by limiting its potential-to-emit (synthetic minor) or is required to report periodically to demonstrate nonapplicability to EPA requirements under Section 111 or 112 of FCAA.**

Equipment Classification List

- (a) Boilers, all solid and liquid fuel burning boilers with the exception of those utilized for residential heating;**
- (b) Boilers, all gas fired boilers above 10 million British thermal units per hour input;**
- (c) Chemical concentration evaporators;**
- (d) Degreasers; of the cold vapor type in which more than five percent of the solvent is comprised of halogens or such aromatic hydrocarbons as benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, or xylene;**
- (e) Ethylene Oxide (ETO) sterilizers;**
- (f) Flares utilized to combust any gaseous material except methane;**
- (g) Fuel burning equipment with a heat input of more than 1 million BTU per hour; except heating, air conditioning systems, or ventilating systems not designed to remove contaminants generated by or released from equipment;**
- (h) Incinerators designed for a capacity of 100 pounds per hour or more;**
- (i) Ovens, burn-out and heat-treat;**
- (j) Stationary internal combustion engines and turbines rated at 500 horsepower or more;**
- (k) Storage tanks for organic liquids associated with commercial or industrial facilities with capacities greater than 40,000 gallons;**
- (l) Vapor collection systems within commercial or industrial facilities;**
- (m) Waste oil burners above 0.5 mm BTU heat output;**
- (n) Wood waste incinerators.**
- (o) Commercial and industrial solid waste incineration units subject to WAC 173-400-050 (4)**
- (p) Small municipal waste combustion units subject to WAC 173-400-050 (5)**